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IN THE UNITED STATES DESIGNATED OFFICE (DO/US)

In re: Stephan et al. Attn: DO/US  
International Appl. No.: PCT/EP99/06373  
International Filing Date: August 30, 1999  
For: ENERGY GUIDE CHAIN FOR GUIDING LINES COMPRISING  
CHAIN LINKS WHICH CAN MOVE IN THREE DIMENSIONS

February 28, 2001

Box PCT  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Sir:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In The Claims:

Please amend Claims 3-7, 9, 11-14, 16-18, 22, 28 and 29  
as follows:

3. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of claim 1,  
characterized in that the joint body (6,26,42) is made  
substantially cylindrical, and the joint receiver (7,27,42)  
has a substantially oval cross section.

4. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of claim 1,  
characterized in that the joint body (6,26,42) has a  
substantially oval cross section and the joint receiver  
(7,27,46) a circular cross section.

5. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of claim 1,  
characterized in that two adjacent chain links (1,21,37) are  
adapted for pivoting relative to each other over a sector  
angle up to about 45°.

6. (Amended) Energy line guide chain of claim 1,  
characterized in that the joint body (42) is formed by joint  
body segments (43), which are separated from one another by  
slots (44).